

Sharon Alys Randall, 86



Sharon Alys "Missy" (Anderson) Randall died peacefully at home in Duxbury on Nov. 6. She was 86.

Missy leaves her loving husband of 53 years, Russell W. "Pappy" Randall, of Duxbury; her daughter Robyn King and her husband Gary King, of Kingston; her daughter Brooke de Lench, of Concord and her sons Hunter Delench and his wife Kate Zeigler, of Manchester by the Sea; Spencer Straus, of Concord, and Taylor de Lench and his wife Lauren (Hurd) de Lench, of Waltham; her daughter Drew Lench, of Pembroke, and her daughters Tracey (Wright)

Norman and her husband Jamarr Norman, of Jamaica, and Courtney (Wright) Mullins and her husband John Mullins, of Duxbury; and her daughter Leigh Lench and her fiancé Scott Smith, of Duxbury, and her son Hutton Collin and his wife Alyssa (Wheble) Collin, of Duxbury.

She also leaves her great-grandchildren Emerson Delench, James Norman, and Drew and Bennett Mullins.

Missy is predeceased by her mother and father, Alys Sharon Anderson and Charles D. Munger, by her adoptive father, E. Sheldon Anderson, and by her brother, Sheldon Anderson.

Missy was born on July 20, 1931, in Manhattan. She attended the Miss Masters School for girls in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. She lived in Redwood, Calif., with her mother, who died there, after which she moved to Winchester, to live with relatives. She continued her education at Reading High School.

She met her first husband, Charles H. Lench, in Winchester, where they resided until they moved to Duxbury in 1949.

Missy attended a nursing program at Cape Cod Community College and became an emergency room nurse at the Jordan Hospital (now Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital – Plymouth), after holding a real estate license and working in that field. She worked at the Jordan for 27 years, where she always exhibited a friendly nature and was well liked and respected throughout the hospital.

She had previously volunteered with the Red Cross and at Massachusetts General Hospital as a "Pink Lady," ultimately realizing her dream of becoming a nurse. She loved the fast pace of acute care nursing. She excelled at the highly technical aspects of emergency room nursing, and she was an early advocate of mandating that AEDs be equipped in emergency vehicles.

Missy's greatest gift as a nurse was her regular display of loving kindness and compassionate support of patients and their families during crisis. She believed in workers' rights and served as a Service Employees International Union representative for many years while at the Jordan. After her work there she established Jordan Call referral service.

Missy and Pappy, who was a long-time math teacher at Plymouth-Carver High School, owned The Turntable in the 1960s, a record shop at Hall's Corner in Duxbury, where they welcomed teenagers who wished to hang out and listen to music. Missy and Pappy also worked together in daughter Leigh's business, Featherstones Massage Therapy, for several years.

Missy loved her New England Patriots. She was such an avid football fan that one had better have a very good reason for calling during a Pats game – such calls would often go unanswered.

Missy and Pappy loved to travel, and they visited London, Paris, Amsterdam, islands throughout the Caribbean, and several states – once driving 7,000 miles cross country to visit the

Southwest and back. They traveled to all of their grandchildren's college graduations. They often vacationed on Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. Missy loved the beach and all that it entailed, and she thrived living in a seaside community for most of her life. She was an avid swimmer – she taught swimming, even to Boston firefighters – and loved water ballet.

Missy was a great cook – she loved to host family dinners, especially during the holidays, and she entertained family and friends with scrumptious meals and witty charm. Missy and Pappy were known for their annual boisterous Fourth of July parties along the Duxbury parade route. She enjoyed watching documentaries and listening to music and cherished her time with grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Missy loved the critters and birds that roamed the woods and yard of their property, and she and Pappy maintained many bird feeders and welcoming gardens.

Missy was especially known for her perpetual smile and her nurturing, caring ways. Her exuberance for life was contagious – many a time, with a sparkle in her eye, she would dance her way down an aisle or simply across the kitchen.

She will be dearly missed.

Interment at Mayflower Cemetery in Duxbury will be private. A private memorial gathering will be held at a later date. Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (alzfdn.org) or Cranberry Hospice (www.bidplymouth.com/cranberryhospice). Arrangements were made by Bartlett Funeral Home, Plymouth.